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Ser. No.10/534,964
Office Action dated: 05/07/08
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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling an apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:
 - automatically tuning a plurality of frequency channels associated with said emergency alert function to identify a first one of said frequency channel[s] having higher signal strength relative to said other frequency channels;
 - using said ~~first identified~~ frequency channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function; and
 - performing a test with said ~~first identified~~ frequency channel, wherein said test includes determining whether said ~~first identified~~ frequency channel receives emergency alert signals corresponding to a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period;
 - automatically tuning a plurality of frequency channels associated with said emergency alert function to identify a second frequency channel having second highest signal strength relative to said other frequency channels, in response determining said first frequency channel did not receive emergency alert signals corresponding to the user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period;
 - using said second frequency channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function; and
 - performing a test with said second-frequency channel, wherein said test includes determining whether said second-frequency channel receives emergency alert signals corresponding to the user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period.

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2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprised of providing an output message responsive to said first identified frequency channel failing said test.
3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said test further includes measuring signal strength on said first identified frequency channel.
4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said predetermined time period is approximately one week.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of enabling a user to modify an existing location code associated with said emergency alert function.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of enabling a user to add a new location code associated with said emergency alert function.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of enabling a user to modify an existing event code associated with said emergency alert function.
8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of enabling a user to add a new event code associated with said emergency alert function.
9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of:
providing an alert output responsive to activation of said emergency alert function;
storing information associated with said alert output; and
enabling a user to access said information.
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprised of enabling said user to replay said alert output.

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11. (currently amended) An apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:
tuning means for tuning a plurality of frequency channels associated with said
emergency alert function;

processing means for identifying a first frequency channel and a second one of said
frequency channel[s] having higher signal strength relative to said other frequency
channels;

wherein said tuning means tunes said first identified frequency channel to receive
emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function; and

wherein said processing means enables a test with said first identified frequency
channel and said test includes determining whether said first identified frequency channel
receives emergency alert signals corresponding to a user selected location code associated
with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period;

wherein said tuning means tunes said second frequency channel to receive
emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function in response
determining said first frequency channel did not receive emergency alert signals
corresponding to the user selected location code associated with said emergency alert
function within a predetermined time period; and

wherein said processing means enables a test with said second frequency channel
and said test includes determining whether said second frequency channel receives
emergency alert signals corresponding to a user selected location code associated with said
emergency alert function within a predetermined time period.

12. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said user selected
location code is a FIPS code.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said processing means
enables an output message responsive to said first identified frequency channel failing said
test.

14. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said test further includes
measuring signal strength on said first identified frequency channel.

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15. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said predetermined time period is approximately one week.
16. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said processing means enables a user to modify an existing location code associated with said emergency alert function.
17. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said processing means enables a user to add a new location code associated with said emergency alert function.
18. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said processing means enables a user to modify an existing event code associated with said emergency alert function.
19. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said processing means enables a user to add a new event code associated with said emergency alert function.
20. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising memory means for storing information associated with an alert output, and wherein said processing means enables a user to access said information.
21. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said processing means enables said user to replay said alert output.
22. (currently amended) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:
- a tuner operative to tune a plurality of frequency channels associated with said emergency alert function;
 - a processor operative to identify a first frequency channel and a second frequency channel ~~one of said frequency channels~~ having higher signal strength relative to said other frequency channels;

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wherein said tuner tunes said first identified frequency channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function; and

wherein said processor enables a test with said first identified frequency channel and said test includes determining whether said first identified frequency channel receives emergency alert signals corresponding to a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period;

wherein said tuner tunes said second frequency channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function, in response determining said first frequency channel did not receive emergency alert signals corresponding to the user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period; and

wherein said processor enables a test with said second frequency channel and said test includes determining whether said second frequency channel receives emergency alert signals corresponding to a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function within a predetermined time period.

23. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said user selected location code is a FIPS code.

24. (currently amended) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable an output message responsive to said first identified frequency channel failing said test.

25. (currently amended) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said test further includes measuring signal strength on said first identified frequency channel.

26. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said predetermined time period is approximately one week.

27. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a user to modify an existing location code associated with said emergency alert function.

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28. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a user to add a new location code associated with said emergency alert function.
29. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a user to modify an existing event code associated with said emergency alert function.
30. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to enable a user to add a new event code associated with said emergency alert function.
31. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 22, further comprising a memory operative to store information associated with an alert output, and wherein said processor enables a user to access said information.
32. (previously presented) The television signal receiver of claim 31, wherein said processor further enables said user to replay said alert output.